

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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R 302006Z SEP 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

S E C R E T STATE 232629

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PN

SUBJECT: FY 1976 - FY 1977 PANAMA CASP

REF: A-57

1. AS EMBASSY AWARE, FORMAL IG REVIEW OF THE FY 1976-1977 CASP HAS BEEN POSTPONED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS BECAUSE OF THE UNCERTAINTIES SURROUNDING THE TIMING OF RESUMPTION OF TREATY NEGOTIATIONS.

2. AS A NEW CASP CYCLE WILL START IN JANUARY 1976, WE BELIEVE WE CAN POSTPONE CONSIDERATION OF THE PANAMANIAN CASP UNTIL EARLY NEXT YEAR. THE PERIOD BETWEEN NOW AND THEN APPEARS TO BE A CRUCIAL ONE FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS AND POSTPONEMENT OF THE CASP UNTIL EARLY 1976 SHOULD GIVE US A BETTER FIX ON HOW THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE PROCEEDING.

3. UNLESS THE EMBASSY PERCEIVES SOME OBJECTION, WE WILL PLAN ON HAVING PANAMA BACK IN PHASE WITH THE CASP CYCLE

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IN JANUARY 1976. WE CONTEMPLATE THAT MUCH OF THE CONTENT

AND THE STATEMENT OF THE ISSUE AND ITS RESOLUTION IN THE
CURRENT CASP CAN BE USED IN THE FY 1977 TIME FRAME WHILE
A SECOND ISSUE IN THE FY 1978 TIME FRAME COULD BE THE U.S.
RELATIONSHIP TO PANAMA IN THE POST-TREATY ERA. INGERSOLL

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